(b) what are the details of such directions given to banks in the year 1992-93 to assist technocrats in the revival of sick units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the detailed guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick and weak industrial units considered potentially viable, inter-alia, provide that in a rehabilitation proposal promoters' contribution shall be a minimum of 20 per cent for change in management, professional and technocrat managements and 30 per cent in other cases.

Reduction of Loans by Andhra Pradesh

1651. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheher Government are aware that Andhra Bank has reduced the loans to the poorer sections of the society in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1992-93; and

(b) whether Government have given any directions to Andhra Bank to reduce loans to the poor and self-employed artisans of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) In terms of Reserve Bank of India's guidelines, all Indian banks, including Andhra Bank, are required to extend atleast 10% of their total credit to weaker sections. However, no state-wise target in this regard has been stipulated. As on 31st March 1992, there were 948 branches of Andhra Bank out of which 739 branches i.e. 78% of the total branches, were in Andhra Pradesh. Against the target of 10% referred to above the performance of Andhra Bank as a whole in the matter of extending credit assistance to weaker sections, including poor and self-employed artisans, is as under :

No. of Accounts in lakhs

(Rs. in Crores)

As at the end of	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding	Percentage of advances to weaker sections to total credit
March, 1992	5·28	192·50	10·23
September, 1992 (Latest Available)	5·46	201·32	11·00

From the above table, it may be observed that credit flow to weaker sections through Andhra Bank in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, has increased during the current financial year as compared to the previous year 1991-92.

Import of Credit Squeeze on Weaker Sections

1652. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be plensed to state :

(a) whether government have studied the import of credit squeeze by nationalised banks on the weaker sections of the society; and

(b) whether there are any proposals to receive the concept of "Loan Melas" to meet the financial needs of artisans and self-employed people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) In terms of Reserve Bank of India's guidelines, all Indian banks, including public sector banks, are required to extend at least 10% of their